

As I said, fentanyl is responsible for 80 percent of Ohio's overdose deaths. Roughly 79 percent of meth, cocaine, psychostimulant overdose deaths in Ohio were from supplies contaminated with fentanyl. The pervasiveness of fentanyl contaminating other drugs has made overall fatality rates for all drugs much higher than before, and we are seeing it across the board.

We have the STOP Fentanyl Act. We have legislation with ANNIE KUSTER and others. There is a Manchin-Portman bill in the Senate, which permanently makes fentanyl-related substances a schedule I controlled substance. This is something that we have to address, and we have to address it in a bipartisan manner.

I would just like to say, lastly, Madam Speaker, that these parents have been through the ultimate tragedy. Having to put one of your own kids to rest, there is no greater heartbreak. There is nothing worse that could happen to a parent.

So I am pledging, and I know other Members are pledging, to keep up the fight because, as some of these parents have told me, there is nothing left to lose for them. These parents have had their hearts ripped out of their bodies. They live with the pain every day. They wake up in the middle of the night and open their eyes and hope it was a nightmare, open their eyes in the morning and hope it didn't really happen, that they could walk down the hall and their kid would still be lying in their bed.

There is nothing more inspiring than seeing these giants, these parents who are taking their pain, taking their experience, taking their heartache and are saying: We have to fight. We can't let this happen to another parent, to another brother or sister, to another family member.

People like Cindy started Rachel's Angels, which is a group back in Akron, Ohio, and there are so many groups across the country that have sprung up because of these tragedies. We want to unite these groups. We want to take the fight to the American people, to Congress, here in the House and in the Senate, and get the resources we need to make sure that these overdose deaths stop, that the companies producing these kinds of drugs get punished, that the people peddling this stuff get punished, and that we get the resources we need to keep this garbage out of our country.

While this may be the first time this year that I stand up and speak on this topic, it will not be the last. We are encouraging everybody, Madam Speaker, to reach out to their Members of Congress, whether they are Democrats or Republicans, and let's get this issue of fentanyl deaths back on the front burner of the agenda here in the United States Congress.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO AMERICA'S ABOLITIONIST HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, today is a very special day. I want to thank my good friend and colleague, Congressman BURGESS OWENS and I are leading the charge here in Congress to tell the courageous stories of America's abolitionist heroes, particularly those from upstate New York.

It was an honor for me to welcome Burgess recently, in October, to upstate New York to tour our region's sacred abolitionist sites, including the Gerrit Smith Estate National Historic Landmark and the National Abolition Hall of Fame in Peterboro, as well as the home of abolitionist, suffragette, and true American heroine Harriet Tubman.

Opposite me, there is a photo here of Gerrit Smith. This is a picture of Gerrit Smith from Peterboro. Peterboro is named after his father, a guy named Peter Smith, and I just wanted to tell a little bit about how this all happened in Peterboro, New York. I am sure a lot of people don't know the history.

It all kind of started with an abolitionist named Reverend Henry Highland, who told his good friend Frederick Douglass, when describing Peterboro, New York—which, by the way, I am honored to represent here in Congress. Many people don't even realize this little hamlet of Peterboro, up in bucolic Madison County, which happens to be my mother's home county, played a vitally important role during the abolitionist movement.

This was in large part due to one of its most famous residents, Gerrit Smith. As I said, the little hamlet of Peterboro was named in honor of his father.

Mr. SMITH was a successful businessman and a committed philanthropist. He previously served this body, actually, as a Representative from New York's 22nd Congressional District, the same district that I currently represent. He was also a three-time Presidential candidate.

Gerrit Smith always opposed slavery, but he firmly joined the political cause of abolitionism in 1835. He was at a meeting of about 600 abolitionists in a church in the nearby city of Utica, which is in Oneida County. Upon learning of the meeting, a violent mob

stormed the church and disrupted the proceedings, forcing the abolitionists to flee.

Smith realized then that he could put his wealth and property to use. He invited the abolitionists to his home in Peterboro. A year later, he was elected president of the New York State Anti-Slavery Society. The rest, as they say, is history. We are going to tell you a little bit about that today with Congressman OWENS.

In Smith's view, slavery was completely incompatible not only with our founding documents but also with the natural laws of God. We were born free, and no law or institution could take away another man or woman's innate right to freedom.

From 1835 until his death in 1874, Gerrit Smith dedicated his whole heart to the abolitionist cause, and Peterboro was his base of operation. Giants like Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Elizabeth Cady—eventually Stanton, whose husband, Henry Stanton, was actually a cousin of Smith's—spent considerable time there, strategizing and mobilizing support.

Gerrit Smith played a key role in funding abolitionist causes across our country. Smith maintained a lifelong friendship with Frederick Douglass and provided funding and other support to *The North Star*, which was Douglass' abolitionist newspaper. In today's terms, Gerrit Smith would be considered a billionaire, and he gave what then was \$100 a month to Frederick Douglass' cause to pay for his newspaper, which in today's dollars, with inflation, would be about \$7,000 per month to make sure that this newspaper was able to continue to thrive and flourish and inform people.

In a letter from Douglass following Smith's death in 1874, Douglas credited Smith's generous support as the financial engine that kept his abolitionist movement going.

Smith's estate in Peterboro was also a stop along the Underground Railroad. As enslaved people made their way north to Canada, Smith would offer them shelter, food, and support. Exact numbers are hard to come by, but it is safe to say Smith bought and helped secure the freedom of hundreds of enslaved people from around the country.

This is why Reverend Henry Highland said: "There are yet two places where slaveholders cannot come, Heaven and Peterboro." Peterboro was synonymous with freedom.

Just a short drive from Gerrit Smith's estate in upstate New York is the home of another titan of the abolitionist movement, the great Harriet Tubman. Like Congressman OWENS, this was my first visit to Harriet Tubman's home in Auburn. I want to show you a little picture of mighty Harriet Tubman, who is an amazing figure. I may have to go back to some of these. This is a great photo of Congressman OWENS and me at Harriet Tubman's

home in Auburn, New York, where we were able to tour and see where she lived and where she operated her Underground Railroad, right in our own communities.

This was an amazing experience. I was in awe of Harriet Tubman, her accomplishments, and her tenacity. She had every reason to be in despair. She was strong; she was compassionate; she was generous; and she was only 4'11", which is amazing.

The home we visited was where Harriet spent her later years, after she escaped slavery in Maryland, served as a conductor of the Underground Railroad, and then a scout, spy, and nurse for the Union Army during the Civil War.

Harriet lived for almost a century. She was 91, almost 92 years old. She was an indomitable force. She was the first Black woman to lead a combat assault, organizing about 150 Black Union troops on a raid in South Carolina. She later freed 750 enslaved people as part of that operation.

She suffered from narcolepsy her adult life after being hit by a metal weight when she was a teenager. Despite this, she persevered. She brought at least 70 slaves to freedom on the Underground Railroad and never lost a single passenger.

□ 1600

At her core, Harriet was a woman of compassion. In her later years she helped so many who came through her home in Auburn providing them shelter, medical attention, and love.

Despite the obstacles she faced, Harriet Tubman never gave up, nor was she ever consumed by anger or cynicism. She led with integrity and was incredibly resilient, and she is certainly an amazing role model for all of us.

It was important to tell Gerrit Smith's story and Harriet Tubman's stories, and now more than ever we must understand our shared history and learn from those who came before us.

Our great Nation was founded on the promise that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. No other republic before ours guaranteed such rights to its citizens. In fact, before America, there were no citizens at all, only subjects.

Yet in the earliest days of our Nation's founding, it is clear we failed to live up to our ideals. We failed to end the slave trade or to free those who were tied down in bondage. While this grave mistake will forever be part of our history, so, too, will be the courageous stories of Gerrit Smith, Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, and so many more Americans of different races, creeds, and religions who fought for a better America.

Gerrit Smith and Harriet Tubman personify the spirit of America, and their stories should be a lesson to all of

us. Their tenacity, their relentlessness, and their pursuit of ideals are everything that we strive to be as Americans.

As Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas recently said, While we as Americans have failed to live up to the ideals of the Declaration of Independence time and again, there is no time in our history when those ideals themselves have actually failed us. The Declaration and its principles endure because they articulate a fundamental truth that all people are born free and equal.

Like Gerrit and Harriet did as citizens of this country we must commit ourselves to the great American project of making sure we live up to our ideals. These ideals are sacred, and the abolitionists who gathered in Peterboro changed the world and they were the authors of our future, and we must thank God that we have the freedom to fight every day to strengthen our institutions and make this a much more perfect Union.

Madam Speaker, I want to end by thanking those who made our recent visit possible and welcomed Congressman OWENS and I on that cold day in October before I yield to him, but I just want to recognize these great people who spend and devote their life to this history.

First is Norman Dann. He was one of our tour guides at Peterboro and the author of "Practical Dreamer, Gerrit Smith and the Crusade for Social Reform."

Alden Max Smith, another one of our guides, as well as the cabinet member of the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, which is also in Peterboro.

Dorothy Willsey, another fantastic tour guide and president of the National Abolition Hall of Fame.

John Becker, chairman of the Madison County Board of Supervisors for meeting us there and also for making this all possible.

Cliff Moses, vice-chairman of the Madison County Board of Supervisors.

Mary Cavanaugh, city of Oneida, wards 1, 2, 3 supervisor, who also greeted us there and toured with us.

Yvonne Nirelli, the former supervisor of the Town of Lincoln, who also greeted us and toured with us.

Matt Roberts, city of Oneida supervisor for wards 1, 2, and 3, another person who came to tour with us and was fascinated again by this amazing little hamlet in upstate New York.

Matthew Urtz, our Madison County historian, who was completely intrigued and so excited to welcome the great BURGESS OWENS, who is going to be talking a little more on this today.

Karol Kucinski, trustee at the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum.

And Nell Ziegler, the President of the Smithfield Community Association and owner and manager of the Gerrit Smith Estate National Historic Landmark.

For more information about the Gerrit Smith Estate and the beautiful hamlet of Peterboro, I encourage you to visit www.gerritsmith.org.

I also want to thank Karen V. Hill, president and CEO of the Harriet Tubman Home, as well as our fantastic tour guides who shared their knowledge and passion with us again on this beautiful cold day.

There it is again, this photo of our tour of Peterboro. It was wonderful to have BURGESS OWENS there, a really special moment for all of us.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS), who I think this was a great experience for him. I think he never realized what existed up in upstate New York. And that is why we want everyone in the world to know just how important it is that we learn our history and we celebrate everyone who had a path and who had courage and who had the tenacity and the boldness to stand up for what was right against the grain at a very difficult time in our country. I have one little thing for you, too. I have a special Harriet Tubman pad for you I grabbed.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

A couple months ago, as Claudia mentioned, my good friend from New York's 22nd District invited me for a tour of two of upstate New York's historic sites impacted by Harriet Tubman. Harriet has been one of my heroes since I was 12 years old in the seventh grade.

This was my first visit to Peterboro. What a remarkable experience it was to see firsthand the property of my longtime hero, someone who once was the property of someone else. I encourage everyone who visits the northeast to make this stop as part of your trip.

I thank my good friend for her invitation and for sharing this time as we discuss courageous Americans who understood the blessing of freedom.

I rise today to honor of the extraordinary life and unmatched legacy of Harriet Tubman, one of the most notable abolitionists in American history.

As many of you know, Harriet escaped the horrors of slavery and through her work during the abolitionary movement overcame unspeakable odds to secure the dreams of future generations.

My great-great-grandfather Silas Burgess came to America shackled in the belly of a slave ship. He was sold on an auction block in Charleston, South Carolina, to the Burgess Plantation. In his youth, he escaped to west Texas along the southwestern route of the Underground Railroad. He later became a successful entrepreneur, starting the first Black church, the first Black elementary school in his town and purchased 102 acres of farmland that he paid off in 2 years.

There are thousands upon thousands of untold stories of slavery to success all due to courageous conductors like Harriet Tubman. The true miracle of

the Underground Railroad though is something that most of us miss. It was total trust in faith between conductors like Harriet and the facilitators of the Freedom Railroad. Whether it was south to north or south to west, as with my great-great grandfather, White, Christian Americans took the great risk of reprisal from the prevalent KKK in their community as they opened up their barns, cellars, and food pantries to create a safe and secret route to freedom for over 100,000 slaves prior to the Civil War.

I have been inspired by the story of the American heart since I was 12 years old, growing up in my proud southern, segregated Black community.

Born enslaved in Maryland in 1822, Harriet spent her childhood as a nursemaid, field hand, cook, and wood cutter.

When Harriet was 12, it was reported that she refused to help an overseer punish another slave resulting in a severe injury when a 2-pound iron weight was thrown at her head. This caused her to suffer seizures and bouts of uncontrollable narcolepsy throughout her life.

Harriet married John Tubman, a free Black man, in 1844.

After rumors spread that Harriet was about to be sold, she fled to Philadelphia, then to Baltimore after returning to rescue her parents, sister, and two children.

Over the next decade, Harriet led dozens of these trips rescuing more than 70 slaves along the Underground Railroad. As the railroad's most famous conductor, it has been said that she never lost a passenger. In 1858, Harriet bought a small farm in upstate New York where her family resided, later to be named the Harriet Tubman Home.

During the Civil War, Harriet served Union forces as a scout, spy, nurse, cook, recruiter, and laundress. Under the command of Union Colonel James Montgomery, Harriet became the first woman to lead a major military operation in the United States when she and 150 African-American Union soldiers rescued about 700 slaves in the Combahee Ferry Raid.

After the Civil War, Harriet opened her home to serve orphans and the elderly. She joined Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony in their quest for women's suffrage. She believed in equal rights for everyone and lived a life of courage, serving others until around the age of 92.

I often say that the Black American history is so rich because of the heroes who have come before us, heroes like Harriet Tubman, Gerrit Smith, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Lucretia Mott, and so many others who recognized injustice, strove to help their brothers and sisters, and dreamed of a world outside the chains of slavery. Each focused on building pockets of freedom that would soon spread throughout our country. It was a movement that has inspired untold millions around the world.

Indeed, we all stand on the shoulders of these great people who came before us, but the Black community, particularly my proud race, holds our ancestors especially dear. They fought hate, overcame the horrors of slavery, and on their backs built a world in which we can own and build our homes and businesses, get an education, worship our faith, vote, run for office, and stand on the floor of the House of Representatives, honoring the legacy of one of the most notable abolitionists in American history.

What a difference men and women pursuing their dreams in a free country can make. It is our responsibility to never forget or allow history to be erased as to what we the people have done together over our 240-year history. This as we continue to resolve to grow together as a more perfect Union.

I have just a few thoughts I want to leave you with before I conclude. And that is a little bit of the highlights of the good hearts of our American people. It is our Nation's mission statement that ends with the idea that we can have not only second chances but as an imperfect Union that we can become more of a perfect Union.

I start with my great-great grandfather Silas Burgess. To show what a more perfect Union looks like is the fact that he came to this country in the belly of a slave ship, lived through the evils of a plantation, and yet escaped by going west because of good Americans, German and Mexican Americans who opened up their homes and their barns and their fields to give him an opportunity to move forward and keep his hopes alive. And even though he saw the evils of being a slave, he saw the good hearts of these good Americans that led him to become a Christian, led him to be able to forgive, to build and serve instead of destroy.

I see the form of a more perfect Union with my dad in the fifties who came back from World War II and could not get his postgraduate degree in Texas because of Jim Crow laws, was able to go to Ohio State because some White administrator, who I will never know who that was, said yes and gave my father an opportunity to get his Ph.D., and again, to help form a more perfect Union.

I experienced this myself in the sixties when going to the University of Miami I was the fourth Black student to get a scholarship in the most southern school down south. At that time there was a commitment by the President, Henry Stanford, to end segregation and it allowed me to move forward based on my character versus the color of my skin.

I saw a more perfect Union in the seventies when a Jewish owner of the Oakland Raiders, Al Davis, committed to ending the Jim Crow barriers of the NFL and put meritocracy above color, and we had the first Hispanic quarterback, the first Hispanic coach, the first Black coach, the first female CEO because meritocracy has no color.

What we have seen in our country and we have to continue to remember is the power of we the people, the power of the team. We think about Harriet Tubman as a conductor, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, Martin Luther King, all conductors. We have many conductors today throughout our country, and at the same time we have many more people who built our freedom highways and railroads.

We the people roll up our sleeves and give hope to others. We need to rediscover our history, remember the havens of Peterboro, places where Americans across this country, regardless of skin color, came together to allow others to have an opportunity to see what freedom is all about.

We can see those experiences in Booker T. Washington in Tuskegee in the early 1900s. We can see that experiments succeeded in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the early 1900s of Black Wall Street. And we can see it today throughout our country. We see it here in this House.

What we must remember is our past should give us hope for a much greater future, and we also must remember to sprint away from anyone who leaves us hopeless.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for those great words and for bringing up so many people. And, again, our community was so honored to have you there.

□ 1615

To have you at Peterboro and to have more people discover and have this audience around our country and the world watching know that there are great people out there that did care about the cause of freedom. You brought up Martin Luther King, and I always remember studying him when I was a college student, and just discovering his great relationship with Gandhi and talking about peace and peaceful protests and how important it was. And how that is a founding principle of our country.

Just to have you there in Peterboro meant so much. Everyone in Peterboro was so excited to have you there. People are recognizing that there are people that are not on everyone's radar, on the national radar, but there are people that have done great things, that are doing it quietly but they are doing it for a great cause.

And those little acts, like you just mentioned, the administrator that let your dad into Ohio State, you will never know who it was, but that person enabled us to have the great BURGESS OWENS here today.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, if I can add to that, because I think the most important thing about our Nation is to remember our history, to really understand that we have within our hearts, because of our foundation, this desire to want others to succeed. We want to feel good that we have been part of something that makes a difference. And it is not just the 2000s, it is actually throughout our country's history.

And to know what happened, again, from my great grandfather, throughout our history, again we can find those moments in which we have helped each other. We have all given some credence, something given back to this country, the more we know about that, the more we will feel better about who we are today and our vision for the future. So we have to make sure we keep that in mind, for sure.

Ms. TENNEY. I agree. I think we have to focus on the people who are helping us, not the people who aren't. And I think that this is what we wanted to do today, and we are grateful to you to be able to focus on people who actually help, not the people tearing us down, the people trying to bring our country to its knees, but people trying to make us rise up and be better, and be a better America than we are today. And that is our striving for our future. That is what we want our children to be. We want America to be better for our children and our grandchildren.

And I think by recognizing that there were great people in our past who have done amazing things who never got the recognition, but often those people go unnoticed. And I think that is why it meant so much for us to have you there.

Madam Speaker, I urge anyone if you want to come up on a beautiful fall day, or you can come in the warm summer days, it is a little warmer—it is a little snowy right now—to come to visit Peterboro and meet with some of our great docents, who I mentioned in my remarks, who are studying and uncovering documents and trying to show the true history so we understand it and so we can learn from it.

Even though I had been to Peterboro when I was younger—I knew about it when I was a kid because it was my mom's home county—I never knew the depth of it, or I learned so much more just by that experience. And I am sure if I go again to the Abolitionist Hall of Fame, I think I would learn even more there. But just learning about Harriet Tubman and going to her house and being in the same room where you know that she was providing so much aid and comfort and love to people she didn't know but people she believed in and knew needed to understand and feel that taste of freedom, just standing there with you and the people that worked there and how much it meant to them, they conveyed that sort of, you know, that wonderful feeling to us as well.

So I feel like I just would love to have everyone come and have that experience. And anywhere else in the country, we would love to encourage our colleagues to come out and tell us about great experiences and great Americans that are out there that might not get the recognition. They might not be getting the clicks on twitter or Facebook or social media, but there are people out there doing great works and uncovering great heroism.

Mr. OWENS. If I could add a little about Peterboro. This was, again, a new experience for me. And what that particular place represented for so many Americans, particularly Black Americans, was a place of hope. They knew that once they got to Peterboro, they were literally very close to Canada, which was their, really, freedom. That was it.

They could then know they weren't going to be hiding and going through all the stealth and knowing they could be recaptured. So that hope is a big factor we talked about. And I hope that those that are listening to our conversation know that actually our country is built on that.

What we have done so far today is talked about what our country is capable of because we have done it in the past. And the more hope we can give to our fellow Americans that this is a country, the best in the history of mankind, that we can serve each other, that we can build, not destroy, and that we can become a much better country because that is actually within our mission statement, to be a more perfect union. And we can do that, and that is what we have done, again, very successfully.

I am just very excited to have this opportunity to spend this time with you. It was a great opportunity. I can't wait to get back. If I can say, for anyone who is listening, please check this place out. Harriet Tubman, as always, for many of us we know she is a hero, go to her place to see her property—a person that once was the property of someone else—her property and what she did and what she gave away to so many because she just loved the process of service. It was a great experience, and I can't wait to get back and check it out again.

Ms. TENNEY. We can't wait to have you back.

And also, I just think about that last moment when we were in Gerrit Smith Estate, in the barn. We went back in the barn and we saw these conditions where horses and mules were put, and that they actually had to hide people in there.

We came out of the barn, and there was this gleaming sunlight on us on that cold day. And I looked above, and there was a sign that said "Heaven in Peterboro," the two places where the slaves were safe and symbolized freedom.

So it was just an honor for me to represent the community. And then to have you standing there with that gleaming sunlight on us and knowing that so many people in our past, that was their gateway to freedom and gateway to finding a new life, I think it was a tremendous experience. We hope maybe you can come again and we can invite our colleagues and others to come and experience Peterboro.

Mr. OWENS. I would love to.

Ms. TENNEY. And Harriet Tubman's home, of course.

Mr. OWENS. If I could just leave one message as my last final word to those

who are watching. This country is a place that has thrived because people can envision themselves doing much, much better. And we do that when we, the people, get together and we really put our hearts and soul into making sure our next generation is a much better place than our time is, and we do that better than any other country.

I am thankful for the opportunity to visit the home of my hero since I was 12 years old, and that was kind of exciting to hear that you were that close to the area and to have the invitation to come up and see it. So thank you so much for that.

Ms. TENNEY. Yes, thank you. And what a great discovery it was, just sitting on the floor of the House Chamber, BURGESS and I. And I said, you have never been to Peterboro? How about this?

Who would think that I would be hosting a famous person like BURGESS OWENS, a hero in our communities, in my own little community, and that we would have that common bond with Harriet Tubman.

But we are grateful. We are just grateful for you and your service and everyone here. And I just hope that my colleagues and anyone who wants to join Peterboro—again, I hate to do too much of a pitch—but go to www.gerritsmith.org. It is an amazing place. It is humble, but it is just majestic and the accomplishments that were made in that wonderful place.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. BURGESS, for joining us, and thank him for everything he has done, for standing courageously and boldly for our communities and for our country, and standing up for our Constitution and freedom. Because that is really what is going to unite us.

Let's talk about what unites us, not what divides us. We have a lot of great history that can really bring us together in the future. And so I thank you.

Mr. OWENS. Thank you so much. Exactly the same. We have a remarkable freshman team. I am so honored to be serving with you at this point. Let's keep this thing moving forward, for sure.

Ms. TENNEY. Thank you so much. The honor is all mine.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 4 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows: